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June/July 2011 Women's Edition

Mission statement:

"The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources"



Jeremiah "Jay" Nixon
Governor



David Kerr
Director
Department of Economic Development

Mission statement:

"The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources"

**Missouri Women's Council
Board Members
2011**

Board Chair

Michelle J. Word, Kansas City

Janet M. Bandera, O'Fallon

Christine J. Bierman, St. Louis

Nicole Colbert-Botchway, St. Louis

Melodee Colbert-Kean, Joplin

Jacqueline Coleman, Jefferson City

Rep. Marsha Haefner, St. Louis

Rep. Genise Monticello, St. Louis

Norma Nisbet, St. Louis

Catherine Crum Thompson, Jefferson City

Karen Thornton, Sunrise Beach

Valerie White, St. Charles

Donayle Whitmore-Smith, St. Louis



Featured Board Member
*Representative Genise
Montecillo
St. Louis, MO*

Rep. Genise Montecillo, a Democrat, represents part of St. Louis City and St. Louis County (District 66) in the Missouri House of Representatives. She was elected to her first two-year term in November 2010.

Rep. Montecillo was a special education teacher who has taught in the Special School District for 24 years.

Rep. Montecillo is a 1981 graduate of Northwest House Springs High School. She graduated from the University of Missouri-St. Louis with a B.S. in Elementary and Special Education, and earned her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix.

Rep. Montecillo was born in Kirkwood, Missouri. She is married to Joseph Montecillo and is the mother to Paul Nappier.



Economic News You Can Use



Missouri SBA Women-Owned Small Business Rule to Expand Access to Federal Contracting Opportunities

New program will be available in early 2011 for small, women-owned firms

With the publication last week of a final rule in the Federal Register, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will begin implementation of its [Women-Owned Small Business](#) (WOSB) contracting program. The agency expects the program to be available for WOSBs in early 2011. The rule is part of the Obama Administration's overall commitment to expanding opportunities for small businesses to compete for federal contracts, in particular those owned by women, socially and economically disadvantaged persons and veterans. [Click Here for more information](#)

Missouri Career Guide 2011 Adds New Features

The *Missouri Career Guide 2011* provides information and data to assist students and job seekers to make informed employment choices. It also helps job seekers of all ages to identify education and skills development resources and to improve their job-hunting and interviewing skills. The 2011 guide includes new sections on green careers in Missouri and the use of social networking for effective job seeking. Printed copies of the guide are available at all **Missouri Career Centers** while supplies last. [Click here to view guide](#)



Missouri Women in the Workforce 2011

This report looks at the role of women in Missouri's workplaces based on occupations found to be traditionally female-oriented versus those deemed more male-oriented.

www.missourieconomy.org/pdfs/women_inworkforce2011web.pdf



Governor Nixon's Small Business Loan Program

Through Gov. Nixon's Small Business Loan Program, Missouri businesses with 15 employees or fewer may apply for loans of between \$2,500 and \$50,000. The loans are typically repaid over a ten-year term and at a low interest rate of 3 percent. Missouri businesses wishing to apply for one of the loans can go online to www.ded.mo.gov/MOloan/index.htm to download an application.

The Missouri Women's Council, U.S. Department of Labor—Women's Bureau, and Lincoln University have partnered to offer a Conference on Women's Issues.

To register, please visit www.eventbrite.com/event/1719482017

*"Our History is
Our Strength"
Conference on
Women's Issues*



September 15, 2011

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

at

Lincoln University

Scruggs University Center Ballroom

FREE ADMISSION

To register, visit

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1719482017>

Please contact the Missouri Women's Council
at (573) 751-0810 with questions.

YOU ARE INVITED

All are welcome to attend

The purpose of the event is to reflect on the past challenges of working women, discuss present areas of concern, and build hope for the future.

Topics include:

Women in the Labor Force, Pay Equity,
Job Rights, Issues Impacting Women

This FREE event will include:

Speakers

Exhibitors

Panel Discussions

Presentations

Open Forum

Event Partners:





POWER of Diversity Event June 2011



The Greater Kansas City Chamber's Diversity Business Connection celebrated 10 years of mentoring, nurturing, and supporting minority, and women owned businesses across the Kansas City metropolitan area.

The Celebration encourages our metropolitan business communities to embrace diversity in thought, action, workforce talent; and supplier base; while honoring the economic impact of our area's minority- and women-owned businesses.

This year's Celebration featured an interactive concert and conversation with Emmy-award winning author, musician, and songwriter Peter Buffett, son of billionaire industrialist, investor, and philanthropist Warren Buffett.



Peter Buffett, Emmy-award winning author, musician and songwriter

The Diversity Business Connection focuses on creating the best possible environment to foster workforce and supplier diversity in our metropolitan area, by providing avenues for quality job and economic creation/growth, advocacy, and collaboration; while creating the best place to live, work, and grow a business.

The philanthropic engagement of our featured performer, Peter Buffett, in the socio-economic enhancement of women and Native Americans, manifested itself throughout his 30+ year career. Buffett began as the musical mind behind many of the early MTV bumpers of the '80s, and the climactic crescendo in the memorable "Fire Dance" scene in 1990's Oscar winning film, *Dances with Wolves*. Buffett has collaborated with Grammy-nominated recording artist Akon as well as Grammy-winning artist Angelique Kidjo. [Read Buffett's bio here.](#)

Buffett's latest venture is his inspiring new book, *Life Is What You Make It*. Personal and revealing, instructive and intuitive, *Life Is What You Make It* is about following passions over conventions, transcending your circumstances or status, taking up the reins of your destiny, and living life to its fullest. To bring the message of the book alive, Buffett has crafted *Life Is What You Make It: A Concert & Conversation with Peter Buffett*, a live music event that incorporates multi-media and personal stories to give the audience an authentic, inspirational, and impactful evening, using his own life story and experiences as illustration.



The Missouri Women's Council at the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce POWER of Diversity event.



The Missouri Women's Council was a partner in the event and connected the chamber to Peter Buffett.



Consuella McCain-Nunnally

Champion for Women in Business

"I enjoy utilizing my talents and passion for business and community development to help create an inclusive business climate conducive for the attraction, growth, and retention of diverse professionals by helping to create the best possible environment to foster business and economic growth in the community in which I live, work, and recreation; on a regional and local level." - Consuella McCain-Nunnally, Director of the Diversity Business Connection for the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

Consuella McCain-Nunnally is the Director of the Diversity Business Connection for the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. She is responsible for daily direction of all Diversity Business Connection programming; as well as the creation and implementation of new initiatives. Works with other Chamber program directors and managers to address economic development issues that affect businesses from both the supplier and workforce diversity and inclusion standpoint.

Consuella is a native of Kansas City. At 19 years old, she left Kansas City and joined the Navy. During her service, she was stationed down the street from the Pentagon in Washington, DC and was at work when 9/11 occurred. After 9/11, Consuella evaluated her future and decided to move back to Kansas City. When she moved back, she saw an advertisement in the paper for an Administrative Assistant position at the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. Consuella was offered the position and worked her way to the Director's position.

Consuella works diligently to identify issues that affect minority business development with The Chamber's Board of Directors and Diversity Business Connection Advisory Board of Directors. She acts as a liaison between the community and The Chamber regarding workforce and Minority Business concerns.

She is also responsible for managing and executing events related to growing the available pool of qualified talent to area employers including: job fairs, military initiatives, and disability projects. Also, works closely with community partners to stay abreast of workforce reform initiatives.

Get to Know Consuella:

Which talent would you most like to have? The ability to sing or play an instrument (music is one of the few things that transcends race, socio-economic class, gender, or religion; it's a connector)

Who are your heroes in real life? My real-life heroes are Veteran's (people who voluntarily give of themselves to secure our civil liberties that we often take for granted); Men and Women who stand in the gap to help introduce our children (someone did it for me); Single mother's (enough said!)

What is your motto? My motto is how can we make this work

What are your hobbies? My Hobbies are reading (I love a great autobiography); traveling; and volunteering

One word that describes me? Comical
What do you find challenging? I find it most challenging when people cannot see opportunity because of their circumstance.

What do you find most rewarding? I find reward in knowing that I have made an impact in my community by helping others, directly or indirectly.



City Design Group, Inc. Eliza Simington

City Design Group, Inc. is an Engineering Consulting Firm that emphasizes on Environmental Services and Construction Services. The Environmental Services that the City Design Group, Inc. provide are Phase 1 & 2 Environmental Site Assessments, third party oversight and underground storage tank management and closure. City Design Group, Inc. provide construction material testing services; concrete, soil and asphalt and structural steel inspection.

What are your biggest challenges and obstacles in being a woman in business?

Coming from a different business arena to my current position my challenge has been gaining an understanding of the industry norms and developing resources to enhance my knowledge has been a challenge. I'm working on overcoming these challenges by being involved in day to day operations of the business and reaching out to the resources that I have found. My greatest obstacle was changing my profession into this new field where few women are present.

What advice would you have for women wanting to start a business?

My advice would be to educate yourself about the area you are going to enter and develop a good support base.

What has been your greatest accomplishment?

My greatest accomplishment is developing reorganization within my business and learning to acquire business.



Eliza Simington
City Design Group, Inc.

Get to Know Eliza:

A talent I would like to have is communicating with people in my field and having my company being the best at providing the services that we provide.

My mom is my hero because she consistently tells me I am capable of doing a superior job personally and professionally. She has taught me to believe that I can be successful at anything that I put my mind and time into achieving.

My motto is "Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it." – Maya Angelou

My hobbies include spending time with family and friends. I enjoy traveling, playing volleyball, reading and shopping.

One word to describe me is analytical



Business Trainings and Job Fairs

June 28th, 2011

JOB FAIR

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 29th, 2011

Marketing: Think Before You Spend

Location: Jackson

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 29th, 2011

**Getting Results with Facebook,
Twitter, & LinkedIn**

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 30th, 2011

**Practical Marketing for Small
Business**

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 30th, 2011

**Sources of Financing for Small
Business**

Location: Dexter

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 6th, 2011

**Exploring Entrepreneurship Start up
Class**

Location: Columbia

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 7th, 2011

**Winning Federal Grants for
Technology Development**

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 7th, 2011

Entrepreneurs Resource Fair

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 7th, 2011

Starting a Business

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 8th, 2011

Starting and Managing a Business

Location: Warrensburg

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 9th, 2011

4 C's of Financing Your Business

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 11th, 2011

**Winning Government Con-
tracts**

Location: Jackson

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 12th, 2011

**Introduction to Government
Contracting**

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 12th, 2011

Starting a Small Business

Location: Sedalia

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 14th, 2011

**Building the Ultimate Business
Plan**

Location: Springfield

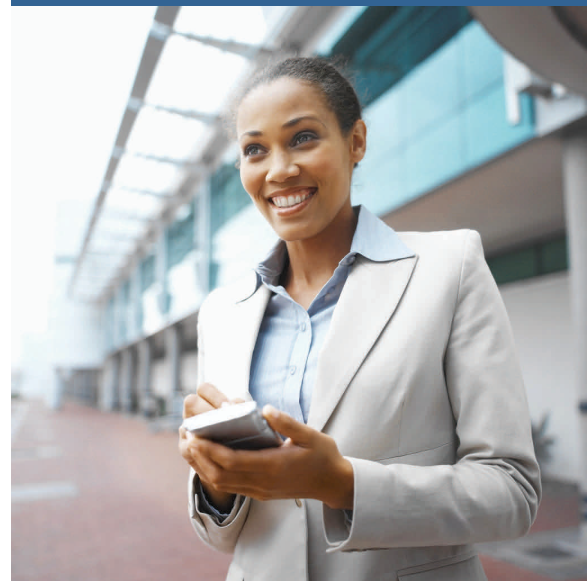
[Click Here for more information](#)

July 14th, 2011

Starting a Small Business

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)





Business Trainings and Job Fairs

July 19th, 2011

Understanding Financial Statements

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 19th, 2011

The Basics of Writing a Business Plan

Location: Sedalia

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 26th, 2011

Starting a Business

Location: St. Peters

[Click Here for more information](#)

July 28th, 2011

FastTrac® NewVenture™

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 3rd, 2011

Exploring Entrepreneurship

Location: Columbia

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 4th, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 6th, 2011

4 C's of Financing Your Business

Location: Grandview

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 10th, 2011

**Get Local Customers with Google,
Yelp, and Foursquare**

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 11th, 2011

Starting a Small Business

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 18th, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Blue Springs

[Click Here for more information](#)

August 26th, 2011

Starting a Small Business

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 1st, 2011

Basics to Writing a Business Plan

Location: Ft. Leonard Wood

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 1st, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 7th, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 8th, 2011

Small Business Academy

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 9th, 2011

Financing Your Business

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 14th, 2011

**Customer Service: Taking Care of
Customers**

Location: Columbia

[Click Here for more information](#)

September 14th, 2011

Starting a Business

Location: St. Peters

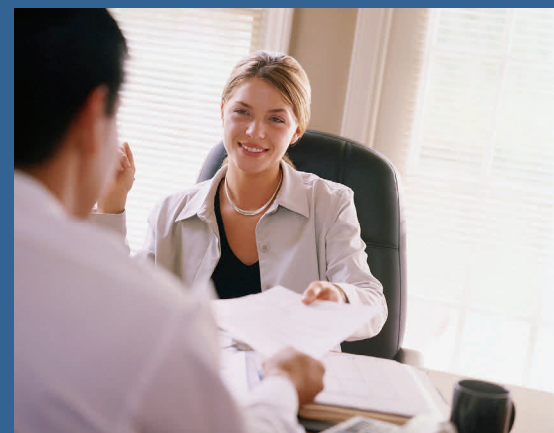
[Click Here for more information](#)

September 15th, 2011

**Marketing Communications:
Building Stronger Customer
Relationships**

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)





Upcoming Events and Programs

eWomen Network

July 8th, 2011

Conversations That Count!

St. Louis, MO

[Please click here for more information](#)

Most Influential Business Women Awards Luncheon

August 12th, 2011

St. Louis, MO

[Please click here for more information](#)

Conference on Women's Issues

Missouri Women's Council, U.S. Department of Labor-

Women's Bureau, and Lincoln University

September 15th, 2011

Lincoln University

Jefferson City, MO

[http://www.womenscouncil.org/documents/
HistoryIsStrength.pdf](http://www.womenscouncil.org/documents/HistoryIsStrength.pdf)

Entrepreneurial Exchange Day

September 20th—21st, 2011

Kansas City, MO

E-Day is a two-day event that brings together the area's legendary entrepreneurs and budding business leaders to learn and share ideas. Get up close and personal with the most successful business leaders in our community to hear their stories and ask questions over cocktails Tuesday night. On Wednesday, panels of local business leaders share war stories and field questions.

[Please click here for more information](#)

eWomen Network

Strategic Business Introductions

August 16th, 2011

Kansas City, MO

This networking event focuses on:

- New client acquisition
 - Marketing and promoting your business
 - Connecting you with needed resources
- Providing help and guidance to your business**

[Click Here for more information](#)

53rd Annual Governor's Conference on Economic Development

September 21-23, 2011

University Plaza Hotel &

Convention Center

Springfield, MO

<http://www.ded.mo.gov/Conference/GovConference.aspx>





Scholarships

Central Exchange AHEAD Scholarship Program

We are looking for a few good women!

Applications are now being accepted for the **AHEAD** scholarship program. Each year, a group of exceptional women are selected for CX memberships who do not currently have the financial resources to participate as Central Exchange members. This two-year endowed membership offers participants full exposure to all that our organization offers. Through Central Exchange programs and connections, AHEAD members discover new leadership and professional skills to enhance their careers.

We know there is a rich and diverse base of women in the Greater Kansas City area who could benefit from the professional development opportunities The CX has to offer. Perhaps you know someone who would like to apply for this opportunity? If so, please forward them this email.

[Click here](#) for full details about the program and the application process.

Please note that the application deadline is Friday, July 15.

Scholarship Opportunities in Missouri

**For more information regarding scholarships
or grants available for higher education,
please visit the
Missouri Department of Higher Education at
<http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/>**





In Every Issue Business Resources

Missouri Business Portal

An online resource as a single point of entry for business registration, filings, licenses, and permits for doing business in the State of Missouri. [Click here for more information.](#)

Missouri Business Development Programs

The Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Center (MO SBTDC) successfully assists more than 10,000 businesses with business start-up and training workshops. Visit www.missouribusiness.net.

Missouri Catalog of State Assistance Programs

Provides detailed information about state grants, loans and assistance programs and how to apply for them. [Click here for more information.](#)

Missouri Department of Economic Development Programs for Business

The Missouri Department of Economic Development offers a listing of programs for businesses. For a full listing, please [click here](#).

Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Centers (MEBAC)

MEBAC's mission is to help small businesses enhance productivity, expand production, increase sales and improve profitability. Visit www.missourienterprise.org or call toll free at (800) 956-2682.

Missouri Linked Deposit Program

The Big Missouri Linked Deposit Program is administered through the state treasurer's office to enable financial institutions to make low-cost loans to businesses and farms to create jobs and help Missouri's economy grow. Visit www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.asp.

MOSourceLink

MOSourceLink connects small business owners with a network of nonprofit resource organizations that provide business-building services. Visit www.mosourcelink.com or call toll-free at (866) 870-6500.

Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)

MO PTAC's mission is to assist businesses—including small, disadvantaged and women owned firms—in obtaining federal, state and local government contracts. Visit www.missouribusiness.net/PTAC

Missouri Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board (SBRFB)

The SBRFB provides a key interface between state regulatory agencies and affected small businesses. For more information, please [click here](#).

Missouri Small Business and Technology Assistance Centers (MO SBTDC)

MO SBTDC is focused on strengthening the technological competitiveness of Missouri's businesses. Visit www.missouribusiness.net/fast.

Missouri Women's Council

Provides information and resources regarding business, education and career development to Missouri's women. Visit www.womenscouncil.org or call toll free at (877) 426-9284.

MoFAST: SBIR/STTR Program

Help for entrepreneurs and small businesses seeking federal funding for technology and life sciences businesses, products, research and development. [Visit www.mofast.net](http://www.mofast.net).

Office of Administration— Office of Equal Opportunity

OEO's mission works to assist women and minorities in developing opportunities to contract with the state, economically empowering traditionally underserved communities and improving the overall fiscal vitality of the State of Missouri. Visit www.oa.mo.gov/oeo or call toll free (877) 259-2963.

SBA— Small Business Administration

The SBA links entrepreneurs with resources, services and support specifically designed for small business needs. [Visit www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) or call toll free at (800) U ASK SBA.





In Every Issue-

Women's Resources

National Association of Women Business Owners

NAWBO is a dues-based national organization representing the interests of all women entrepreneurs in all industries. Membership is open to sole proprietors, partners and corporate owners with day-to-day management responsibility.

Phone: (800) 556-2926

Website: www.nawbo.org

National Women's Business Council

The Council's mission is to promote initiatives, policies and programs designed to support women's business enterprises at all stages of development in the public and private sector marketplaces, from start-up to success to significance.

Website: www.nwbc.gov

eWomenNetwork, Inc.

eWomenNetwork, Inc. is committed to helping women and their businesses achieve, succeed and thrive in the new economy. Their goal is to help female business owners and professionals achieve their goals.

Website: www.eWomenNetwork.com

Women Impacting Public Policy, Inc. (WIPP)

A national nonpartisan public policy organization that advocates for and on behalf of women and minorities in business in the legislative process of our national, creating economic opportunities and building bridges and alliances to other small business organizations.

Website: www.wipp.org

Career Education Coordinators

Network of professionals focusing on nontraditional careers as well as providing information and expertise in career awareness, exploration and planning for various audiences.

Website: www.missouricareereducation.org

Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)

Dedicated to advancing the success of Corporate Members, certified women's business enterprises, and government entities in partnership with its Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs)

Website: www.wbenc.org

Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network

The Missouri Women's Council recognizes that often times women in business and workforce may encounter barriers accessing quality child care. This organization coordinates the activities of the eight child care resource and referral agencies that serve all 115 counties in Missouri.

Website: www.mocccrn.org

Women's Business Development Center

The largest women's business assistance center in the United States. Nationally and internationally recognized for responsive, innovative, and effective programs and advocacy efforts. Delivers business services and financial assistance to empower women towards entrepreneurship and economic self-sufficiency.

Website: www.wbdc.org

Caring Communities

A "partnership" that enables community and school leaders to define priorities and agendas based on each community's needs, assets and vision. By developing community-based supports and services, the aim is to enhance the well-being of children, which is inseparable from the well-being of their families and the stability and economic viability of the communities where they live.

Website: www.mofact.org

WPO Women Presidents' Organization

The WPO is a non-profit membership organization for women presidents of multimillion-dollar companies. Members of the WPO take part in professionally facilitated peer advisory groups in order to coax the 'genius out of the group' and grow their businesses to the next level.

Website: www.womenpresidentsorg.com

Missouri Career Centers

Located in communities across the state and represent a unique partnership of employment and training organizations that reflect the specific needs in each local community. These resource areas are equipped with computers, fax machines, and telephones that operate similarly to a public library.

Website: www.missouricareersource.com





Missouri Women's Council



The Missouri Women's Council was established in 1985 by the State's 83rd General Assembly to identify and address issues affecting the economic and employment status of women in Missouri.

The first name of the council was the Missouri Council on Women's Economic Development and Training (MCWEDT). The name was changed to the Missouri Women's Council in 1994.

It is the intent of the Missouri Women's Council to work closely with other agencies and community-based organizations to build awareness, educate, promote opportunities for, and enhance the lives and well being of Missouri women business owners and women in the workforce.

The Missouri Women's Council offers information and resources on starting your Own Business, Women in Business, Finding a Great Job, Upgrading Your Skills, and Obtaining State Contracts.

The Council is an agency within the Department of Economic Development. The bipartisan Council is comprised of 15 members: 11 appointed by the Governor, 2 Missouri State Senators, and 2 Missouri State Representatives with the chair appointed by the governor. An Executive Directors is appointed to serve the Missouri Women's Council and the women of Missouri.

Find us on
Facebook



Follow us on
Facebook

Missouri Women's Council's Women Owned Business (WOB) Network

Helping Women-Owned Businesses Succeed in Missouri

Becoming a member of the WOB Network can help women-owned business owners find and interact with each other, as well as highlight the goods and services their businesses provide. Register for free, online at www.wobnetwork.mo.gov

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Women's Edition, please [click here](#).